Constitution

**Article l - Name, Purpose, and Non-Discrimination Policy of the Organization**.

**Section I: Name**: The name of this organization shall be “The Forestry Forum at The Ohio State University.”

**Section II - Purpose**:

1. To promote social relationships among the students in the School of Natural Resources or the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences and to bring the students into closer contact with the faculty.
2. To further the advancement of forestry by giving all possible aid to the school and college in projects that they may undertake.
3. To increase the members’ interest in the study of forestry by providing programs about forestry and related subjects.

**Section III - Non-Discrimination Policy**:

This organization and its members shall not discriminate against

any individual(s) on the basis of age, ancestry, race, color, creed, handicap, disability, gender identity or expression, genetic information, HIV/AIDS status, military status, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or protected veteran status.

**Article II - Membership: Qualifications and categories of membership.**

**Section I:** Membership of this forum shall be active, associate or honorary. Voting is limited to active members.

**Section II:** Each student attending Ohio State University and his or her spouse are eligible for membership in the forum and shall become an active member upon payment of dues for the current quarter or academic year. (Non-student membership should not exceed 20% of current forum membership.)

**Section III:** The Deans, Chairmen and faculty (resident instruction, research, extension) of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences are honorary members. Associate membership also is open to any interested person upon consideration of the membership committee.

**Article III - Organization Leadership**:

**Section I:** The elected officers of this forum shall be: President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer

**Section II:** The Faculty Advisor shall be a full time forestry or urban forestry faculty member selected by the membership and approved by the Director of the School of Natural Resources. The advisor shall have advisory power but no voting rights.

**Article IV - Executive Committee:**

The Executive Committee shall be comprised of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer and the faculty advisor and will meet as needed.

**Article V – Meetings of the Organization:**

**Section I:** Forty per-cent of the membership shall constitute a quorum.

Section II: Special meetings shall be called by the President or at the request of 75% of the membership.

**Article VI – Method of Amending Constitution:**

**Section I:** Proposed amendments to the constitution must be presented in writing and read to the membership quorum at a meeting before being acted upon by the members at the subsequent meeting.

**Section II:** Approval of the amendment requires by an affirmative vote by three-fourths vote of a membership quorum.

**Section III:** Voting may be by signed absentee ballot between 8:00 AM and 5:00 PM on the day of the election. These ballots are to be counted as part of the quorum.

# **Article VII – Method of Dissolution of Organization**

**Section I:** Dissolution should be considered when membership in the club drops below four members for more than two academic semesters not including summer semester.

**Section II:** A motion for dissolution will be read at a regular meeting with the vote to be taken at the subsequent meeting. Dissolution requires a majority vote of remaining members**.**

**Section III:** Remaining funds will be placed into the endowment scholarship account established by the club and administered by the School of Natural Resources. The endowment account number is 405584.

**Section IV:** Equipment owned by the club will be turned over to the School of Natural Resources or its successor.

## By-Laws

**Article 1 – Meeting Requirements**

**Section I.** Regular meetings should be held at a time voted upon at the start of the semester. Subsequent meetings will be biweekly.

**Section II**. Regular meetings should begin at the above voted time, in room 333c.

### Article II- Parliamentary Authority

#### The rules contained in Robert’s Rule of Order shall govern the organization in all cases to which they are applicable, and in which they are not inconsistent with the by-laws of this organization.

#### **Article III- Membership**

**Section I**. Regular or associate membership shall be determined by payment of dues for each academic year.

**Section II**. Dues shall be $5.00 per academic year

**Section III**. Honorary members shall be exempted from dues.

**Article IV- Election and Eligibility of Officers**

**Section I**. Eligibility of Officers

* 1. No member shall be eligible to hold office who has not been a member of the club for one semester.
	2. No member shall be eligible for candidacy for any office unless he/she has at least one academic year left in his/her present enrollment, a cumulative point-hour ratio of at least 2.25 and is able to fulfill the duties of his/her office.
	3. Any member holding an office must be enrolled in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences or in The Ohio State University and have a sincere interest in Natural Resources.

**Section II**. Interim Appointments. Should an officer resign during the forum year, the President shall appoint some member of the forum to assume the office temporarily and order the Secretary to send notice of a special election at the next meeting so that the vacancy can be filled.

**Section III**. Nominations

Nominations will be sought from the membership on the first regular meeting in April of each academic year.

**Section IV.** Elections will be held the last regular meeting in April of each academic year. Officers are to be elected by secret ballot including absentee ballots. Candidates not elected may elect to seek a lower office.

**Article V- Duties of Officers**

**Section I**. President

* + - 1. Shall preside at all meetings of the forum.
			2. Shall appoint committees.
			3. Shall call special meetings of the forum when deemed necessary.
			4. Shall preside as Chairman of the Executive Committee.
			5. Shall serve as ex-officio member of the Executive Committee for one quarter following his term in office if available.

**Section II**. Vice-President

1. Shall preside in the absence of the President.
2. Shall serve to coordinate the programs at the regular meetings.
3. Shall serve as representative on the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Council.

**Section III**. Secretary

* + - 1. Shall be responsible for recording the proceedings and reading the minutes of all the forum meetings.
			2. Shall be responsible for any general forum correspondence.
			3. Shall read communications at meetings when requested.

**Section IV**. Treasurer

1. Shall be responsible for collecting dues and other receipts.
2. Shall pay out funds only on the order of the President or by vote of the membership.
3. Shall keep an accurate membership roll.

#### **Article VIII - Method of Amending By-Laws**

These by-laws may be amended at any meeting by a two-thirds vote of a quorum.

**Article IX – Member Conduct**

All members and elected or appointed leaders are expected to maintain high ethics and standards at all times.  Any actions deemed unethical or in bad reflection of this organization by a member or officer shall be removed from office and put on a probationary period by the organization.  If further actions are needed, the advisor and officer team will hold a private discussion among the officer team, and then discuss actions with accused member.  If the officer team and advisor believe the member should be removed from the organization they hold all rights and actions to remove them from membership.